**A Mini-Biography of Linus**

Linus Van Pelt was born on July 14, 1952, but he was not given the name “Linus” until September 22, 1952. (www.peanuts.wikia.com/wiki/Linus\_van\_Pelt) Linus’ older sister, Lucy, was so determined to get him to sit up during his infant years, that she propped him up with wooden boards that she nailed to the ground. (<http://comics.com/peanuts>) A year later, Linus became a big brother when his parents gave birth to Rerun Van Pelt. A year after the birth of Rerun, in 1954, Linus spoke his first words, and it was during that year when Linus was given a little blue blanket to sleep with.

In 1957, Linus was old enough to go to school with his older sister. To begin with, Linus had trouble fitting in at school and he was picked on for carrying around a blanket. However, Linus used the blanket to his advantage, and whenever the bullies would pick on him, he would use the blanket like a whip. After a while bullies stopped messing with him. “They never tease me more than once,” Linus would say. ([www.answers.com/Linus](http://www.answers.com/Linus)) Later, Linus met Charlie Brown, sometimes called Charles and Chuck, and the two quickly became best friends. Charlie Brown’s younger sister, Sally, followed Linus around when she was a toddler, and the already intelligent Linus became her tutor. Linus taught her the ways of the world, math, and many other things. However, it soon became apparent that little Sally Brown was interested in Linus for more than his ability to teach her. Linus found it disgusting that Sally liked him and he stopped tutoring her and tried his best to stay away from Sally. As Sally grew older, she continued to follow Linus around and she began to call him her “Sweet Baboo.” However, there was one thing that Sally did not like about Linus, and that was his blanket. Sally often declared that “no future husband of hers would be seen holding a blanket.”

However, Linus did not let Sally convince him to give up the blanket. Many others also tried to get Linus to give up the blanket as he got older. They all felt that Linus was too old to still be carrying around a blanket. Linus’ grandmother was one of his family members who tried to help him get over his need to keep the blanket. The “Blanket Hating” Grandmother eventually made a deal with Linus. She said that she would give up smoking if Linus gave up his blanket, but Linus refused. The Blanket Hating Grandmother then stated that she would donate $10 to Linus’ favorite charity if Linus gave up the blanket, but Linus refused again. Finally, the Blanket Hating Grandmother gave up on getting rid of Linus’ blanket.

However, it was Lucy that was the biggest threat to Linus’ blanket. When Linus was seven years old, Lucy thought it was time for Linus to grow up and stop carrying around his blanket. Therefore, Lucy buried Linus’ blanket without Linus’ permission. The blanket was Linus’ most prized possession, and when he found out that Lucy had buried it, he almost went insane. After the burial of his blanket, he began to feel dizzy, his food started to taste sour, he had trouble breathing, was unable to sleep, and he felt like he was going to choke. (www.comics.com/peanuts) Linus could not live without his blanket, so he started digging rapidly, trying to find his most prized possession. Luckily for Linus, Snoopy, Charlie Brown’s dog, dug up Linus’ blanket by mistake. Linus was overjoyed and he stopped feeling dizzy and short of breath. Lucy made many other attempts to get rid of her brother’s blanket, but they all failed.

When Linus was eight years old, he suddenly stopped sucking his thumb and said, “It’s a good thumb, but not a great thumb.” After this event, Linus never sucked his thumb again. However, the blanket remained, and Linus was determined to keep his blanket for as long as he lived.

Through elementary school and middle school, Linus was in the top of his class, and he had outstanding grades. When Linus got to high school, he felt a desire to lead his peers, and he decided to run for the Student Body President. All of his classmates thought Linus would be perfect for the job, and Linus got elected. Linus still had his blanket during this time, but it was starting to look tattered, and it was beginning to get holes in it. Linus had outgrown holding his blanket in public, but he still enjoyed it when no one was looking. Thus, he took pieces of his blanket and made a sport coat out of it. Linus wore this coat to all of to church and all the public events he attended. Throughout high school Linus continued to be at the top of his class. He also participated in school events and was on the high school baseball team. When the time came to apply for college, Linus was offered scholarships to Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Dartmouth, and many other universities around the country. Of all the universities offered to him, Linus liked Yale the best, so he decided to attend Yale. Linus studied theology and philosophy at Yale and graduated from Yale with honors.

After his graduation from Yale, Linus missed being on a college campus, so at the age of 24, he decided that he wanted to teach and was able to get a job at a small college in Pennsylvania. He later went on to teach at both Yale and Harvard. In addition to his teaching, Linus also became an author, writing many books about philosophy and theology. By this time, his sport coat made from his old blanket was losing thread. Linus did not want to lose one thread of his old blanket, so he used some of the loose thread for the cover of his books so that others could share in pieces of his blanket. Linus later went to Cornell to be a professor, and it was during this time that he wrote his best-selling book entitled Me and My Blanket, which was a book about children and their psychological needs. The success of the book caused book stores to ask Linus to come and autograph books for their customers. Linus always loved communicating with his fans, and liked to autograph his books as well. Linus traveled to many other universities later in his life to be a professor. He also wrote other books, but after awhile, he began to miss his old college again and Linus went back to be a professor at Yale at the age of 65. His last working years before retirement were spent at Yale.

During high school, Sally Brown finally gave up on Linus after nearly ten years of hoping he would one day want to be her “Sweet Baboo.” However, after Sally stopped bugging him, Linus actually started to like her. When Linus was in 12th grade, he asked Sally to the prom. Sally was shocked, but she wanted to go now just as much as Linus did. Linus then left for college, and he did not see Sally again for four years. After college, Linus came back to his hometown and started dating Sally, and later asked Sally if she wanted to get married and move to Pennsylvania with him, since he had obtained a teaching job there. At the wedding, Charlie Brown was the best man and Lucy Van Pelt was the maid of honor, and the wedding was marvelous. Sally then moved in with Linus, and in about a year they had their first child, named Marcie, after their childhood friend. A few years later, Sally and Linus had another child, named Schroeder, after their famous Uncle who was now a concert pianist. Since Linus always loved his blanket as a child, he decided to give his children a blanket of their own. However, neither one of his children seemed interested in a blanket; so instead, he bought Schroeder a teddy bear and Marcie a rattle. The children loved their new gifts and Linus felt satisfied that these gifts might serve the same function as his blanket did for him.

Linus lived a wonderful life, and he died at the age of 96, in good health up until his death. At Linus’ funeral, his brother Rerun said a few words about his dead brother. “Linus lived a marvelous life, and he ‘blanketed’ us all with many great memories.” Linus left instructions in his Will that said he wanted the remains of his tattered overcoat to be buried with him, because Linus had never slept one night without his old blanket.

**Graphic Organizer for the Linus Biography**

Intro- Born on July 14, 1952, given his name on September 22, 1952. Rerun was born a year later

#1- Linus goes to school. “They never tease me more than once.” Linus was Sally Brown’s tutor, and soon sally began to like him.

#2- Linus does not let his “Blanket Hating Grandmother” get rid of his blanket.

#3- Lucy’s threats to Linus and the blanket

#4- Linus becomes his high school class. Linus makes an overcoat out of his old blanket. Linus goes to Yale and graduates with honors.

#5- Linus gets a job as a college professor, and he teaches at many colleges. Later, Linus becomes a best-selling author of philosophy and children.

#6- Linus marries Sally Brown and they move to Pennsylvania. Sally and Linus have two children named Marcie and Schroeder, who are named after their childhood friends.

Conclusion- Linus dies at the age of 96. Linus was buried with his blanket.

**Bibliography for the Linus Biography**

[www.peanuts.wikia.com/wiki/Linus\_van\_Pelt](http://www.peanuts.wikia.com/wiki/Linus_van_Pelt)

<http://comics.com/peanuts>

[www.answers.com/Linus](http://www.answers.com/Linus)

[www.tripatlas.com/Linus\_van\_Pelt](http://www.tripatlas.com/Linus_van_Pelt)